

We have received a "sample copy" of "THE BRETHREN'S MISSIONARY VISITOR" published quarterly, by the General Missionary and Tract committee of the German Baptist Brethren church, Mt. Morris, Ill." Subscription per Annum, 25cts.

The committee having this work in charge are Enoch Eby, foreman; D. L. Miller, vice foreman and treasurer; S. R. Zug; S. F. Sanger; S. W. Hoover.

This number contains 32 pages 6 by 9 1-4 inches—about 2-3 the size of the EVANGELIST. The year of four numbers would cost 4-75, or 5 1-3 per cent., of what the EVANGELIST costs. Or, in other words, it asks 25 cts. for what the EVANGELIST gets 8cts. for; or to put it conversely, taking its subscription rate for a basis, the price of the EVANGELIST should be \$4.68 per annum instead of \$1.50. If our brethren would stand this price we would soon have a Publishing House clear of debt, equipped with a printing outfit that would be a king of its kind. We really wish they were a little more glib in this respect.

The object of the VISITOR is to record the progress of the Missionary and Tract Work. It is readable and interesting to one desirous of studying the favorable side of the G. B. Brethren church.

The following extracts will represent the character and scope of the publication:

#### HOME MISSION WORK.

BY J. H. MOORE.

It is to the great mission fields here in our beloved America that I wish to call special attention. At this time there are in the United States nearly 50, 000, 000 persons who have never heard the Brethren preach. Of these 33, 000, 000 are said to have made no religious profession whatever. Many of them are within a few miles of our doors. Millions of them have their homes in portions of the country greatly neglected by religious workers. Most of them can speak and read our own language. They, with us, live in a land of absolute religious freedom, where our ministers can preach, distribute religious literature, build up and equip churches without the least intimidation. It is not only a land of the greatest freedom, but "the powers that be" will protect us in all our rights and property. Add to these privileges the facts that the Scriptures are already printed in the language of these people, that facilities for reaching them quickly and cheaply are unparalleled in any other part of the world, and it must appear to any thinking person that we have before us openings for doing missionary work unexcelled in any other part or age of the world.

With such opportunities before us it will be exceedingly unwise for us not to at once enter the field in great force and push the work with the utmost vigor. If we do not embrace the present grand opportunity of doing missionary work right at our own door, the time may come when he, who holds the seven stars in his right hand, will remove our candlestick and leave us and those around us in spiritual darkness. It is not sufficient to plead that all our time and talents are required to keep the church pure and in line of Christian duty, and hold the ground already occupied. If we have not about us the power and zeal to push out into the world, enlarge the borders of Zion and convert sinners, then we certainly have not the spirit of Christ.

In this work every member in general, and each church official in particular, should feel deeply interested. Our neglecting to embrace the present opportunity in America will prove a serious mistake indeed. On this very thing the future of the Brethren

church may possibly hinge. Certainly no one can afford to feel indifferent. There is probably not one congregation in the Brotherhood that is not in close proximity to a point where a mission may be opened and sinners gathered into the church. And there are among us but few ministers who cannot be induced to undertake one of these missions: while there is probably not a self-supporting member who will not cheerfully give something to support a work of this kind, if solicited in the right manner.

Then every State District has within her bounds scores of places where churches may be established if good, hard-working evangelists are put in the field and sustained in their work. To this add the thousands of openings that may be found in the unoccupied territory in the United States and Canada, and surely it must be apparent to every one that we, as a people, should become greatly aroused on this question of home missionary work. A greater question has not confronted us since the landing of our fathers upon the shores of the Western World.

#### WHY INDIA MISSION NOW.

BY DANIEL VANIMAN.

Now, with all this pressure upon the Missionary Board to do something for the heathen, and God's command, "Go into the world," etc., for authority, who art thou, oh brother or sister, that thou art willing to stand off and criticize and oppose the work of the Lord in behalf of the heathen? Art thou not afraid that thou art working against God? Remember that less than fourteen hundred years ago our own ancestors were heathen who worshiped idols and fought one another, not only for subjugation, but for extermination, then ask, where would I be if those who had the Gospel then had not pushed it out among my ancestors? And since the Lord and those who loved him have managed, through much sacrifice, to rescue and save me, can I be justified before God while I am doing nothing to enlighten and save the heathen? Let each one answer these burning questions for himself, honestly before God, and then decide for himself whether he will stand in the way, or lift and pray.

#### THE MISSIONARY VISITOR.

Is to set before the General Brotherhood each quarter the extent and progress of the Missionary and Tract Work of the church; to give a full report of money received and expended, of results obtained and to cultivate a deeper and more abiding interest in these most important branches of church work.

In less than ten years nearly three score and ten meeting houses have been built with the assistance rendered by the Committee, a number of congregations organized, and hundreds of thousands of tracts sent out upon their mission.

A common object in which all may take part, and in which all may have a common interest and to which all may give is an important factor in the unification of a body of people.

The Missionary and Tract Work has been blessed not only in doing good in spreading the Gospel, but also in unifying the Brotherhood. Every individual member of the church who gives, feels that it is his work, and that he is in some degree connected with it. This begets a common interest and as a result the bond of union is strengthened.

In America the Committee has carried on its work as best it could in Idaho and Washington, Louisiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Washington

City, and Canada. Nine Districts were assisted in their District mission work, nine meeting houses received donations, and eight loans; and although not all reported, there were twenty three accessions to the church by baptism. The receipts for the year were \$10, 581, 42.

It will be observed that last year not one-third of the congregations, as congregations, contributed to the general mission work.

To succeed well in your work, you will find, if you have not already done so, that it will help you very much if you adopt a system in soliciting aid. Whatever plan you adopt, let it take in every member in your congregation, and let it include a personal appeal to every one, laying before all the necessity and the importance of giving to this great work. Do not be satisfied with your labor until you have received the amount from your church asked for by Annual Meeting, i. e., one cent a week from each member, or fifty-two cents per year. You know how many members you have. If there are one hundred, they should give collectively \$52.00 per year. Loyalty to the church and a desire to see it prosper; loyalty to Christ, and a desire to see sinners brought to him, will induce every member of the Church to give. Remember that it is not the large sums that a few individuals may give that will supply the means for the work, but it is the one-cent-a-week that every member ought to give, that will supply money enough to fill every call that is made on the Committee.

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